GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4016
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2000
OPENING OF DUTY FREE SHOPS
A. VENKATESH NAIK;DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI;RAM PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the places where Duty Free Shops are functioning in the country at present;

(b) whether I.T.D.C. propose to open more Duty Free Shops at various airports in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(d) the time by which these shops are likely to start functioning;

(e) the criteria and formalities for purchase of articles from these shops; and

(f) the benefit likely to accrue to the public as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM & CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a): Presently, ITDC is operating Duty Free Shops at six International airports of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Thiruvananthapuram and Goa.

(b), (c) and (d): Yes Sir. ITDC has secured the contract for opening nine new Duty Free Shops at the airports of Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Calicut and Varanasi. These shops are likely to commence operation by the end of March 2001.

(e): The criteria/formalities for making purchases from Duty Free Shops at international airports include that the passenger should be an international traveller, he should produce valid passport and payment should be made in foreign exchange.

(f): While the Indian merchandise will be promoted and the country will earn valuable foreign exchange, the international passengers will get vast range of merchandise to buy including Indian products.